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1c780 U.S. PTO

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PTO/SB/09 (12-97)  
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**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))—INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket Number (Optional)

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Lottie M. Watkins

Application or Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Filed or Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Support Relief Hosiery

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
☐ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization exists.  
☐ Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

Lottie M. Watkins

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

Lottie M. Watkins  
Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

4/21/2000

Date

Date

Date

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1c511 U.S. PTO  
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**Support Relief Hosiery**  
**Inventor**  
**Ms. Lottie M. Watkins**

# **SUPPORT RELIEF HOSIERY**

## **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

A support relief hosiery to aid in the support of the knee and leg area.

## **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Support relief hosiery is special design leg hosiery for men, women and children to aid in the support of the knee and leg area. Many adults and children are trouble with weak knee joints and have severe aches in the area, especially if having to stand or be on their feet for long period of time. The Support Relief Hosiery product will relieve this aching problem through the use of tightly support knit nylon over the lower thigh, knee and upper leg area. This relief hosiery utilizes stretch band overlapping with four (4) snaps at both the top of the lower thigh and bottom of the upper calf for adjustment for proper fitting. The stretch band overlapping at the tip of the lower thigh has four (4) snaps and the stretch band at the bottom of the upper calf can be made with four (4) snaps or without snaps. The nylon knit relief hosiery shall utilize brightly colored elastic band at the tip of the lower thigh and bottom of the upper calf of the relief hosiery with print for sport, hunters, etc. The relief hosiery would reach approximately three (3) inches above the knee and two (2) inches below the calf of the leg. The elastic band would be approximately two inches in width at the low part of the upper calf and three inches above the lower thigh. The relief hosiery is yet relatively simple based upon my review of the materials, it is my tentative conclusion that this product can take place with current, conventional an commercially available materials, using existing production technology. This innovation could us standard production technology. New research in

this area may occur, but it doesn't appear required, nor does major restoring or exotic materials expense.

In this context, several prior inventors have been directed to this particular leg problem, some of, which are the subject of, issued United States patents. In particular, patent 4,027,667 to Roger Swallow and John E. Pendergrass for Therapeutic stockings. Patent 4,176,665 to George I. Terpening, for stocking Knee Brace, Patent 4,282,728 to Robert H. Tapp and Clarence W. Wall for Knee Protective Stocking. All deal with aspects of this knee and leg problem.

The present invention as disclosed below provides novel Support Relief Hosiery to aid in the process of relieving knee and upper leg discomfort.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The Support Relief Hosiery is designed to help relieve aching knees providing support to them. The relief hosiery shall surround the knee, lower thigh and the upper calf areas gently, but firmly, It will be particularly useful to elderly men and women who often suffer from the knee weakness. An alternative sport model in a variety of colors. Adults and children of all ages in many of approximately 98.4 million households in the United States and many others can use the hosiery elsewhere. The Support Relief Hosiery will provide a lasting massage to the area while being worn.

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The invention, Support Relief Hosiery shall be made in a variety of colors to appeal to the various users. There would be an additional area of support around the knee. The invention would be slipped over the foot and positioned on the leg where the support is needed the greatest. Pants can be worn over the invention without any obvious bulges or

bumps. Adults as well as children of all ages can wear the hosiery if extra supports are needed. Many women wear support panty hose, but would rather have additional support just around the knees that would be provide by the hosiery. The relief hosiery does not fit the foot to cover the toes, but could be placed at the calf and pulled to lower thigh, then a sock maybe worn at the individual description.

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING**

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the Support Relief Hosiery. Figure 2 is a perspective view of the length of the Support Relief Hosiery.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the relief hosiery with snaps attached.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the relief hosiery with elastic band.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the relief hosiery showing the length before the elastic bands are attached.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the nylon knit relief hosiery the side view of the hosiery.

Figure 7 is a perspective view showing the knee of the relief hosiery.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

Referring to Fig. 1-7 there is shown the Support Relief Hosiery of the invention, generally designated as L1 Relief Hosiery is made of support hosiery material that fit the leg snugly so as to create a supportive compressive, hosiery, Fig. 2, the L1 relief hosiery is twenty four (24) inches and/or in length according to the leg length of the individual. Fig, the upper and lower opening of the L1 relief hosiery is surrounded with L4 and L5 stretch bands are made into the material. The L1 relief hosiery L4 and L5 stretch bands are made double for strength and are made adjustable in diameter with L6 and L7, a set of snaps that are attached to L4 and L5, stretch bands. L6 snaps, size 3A are with L5 stretch



[illegible]

To aid in the support of the knee and leg area.

Lottie M. Watkins





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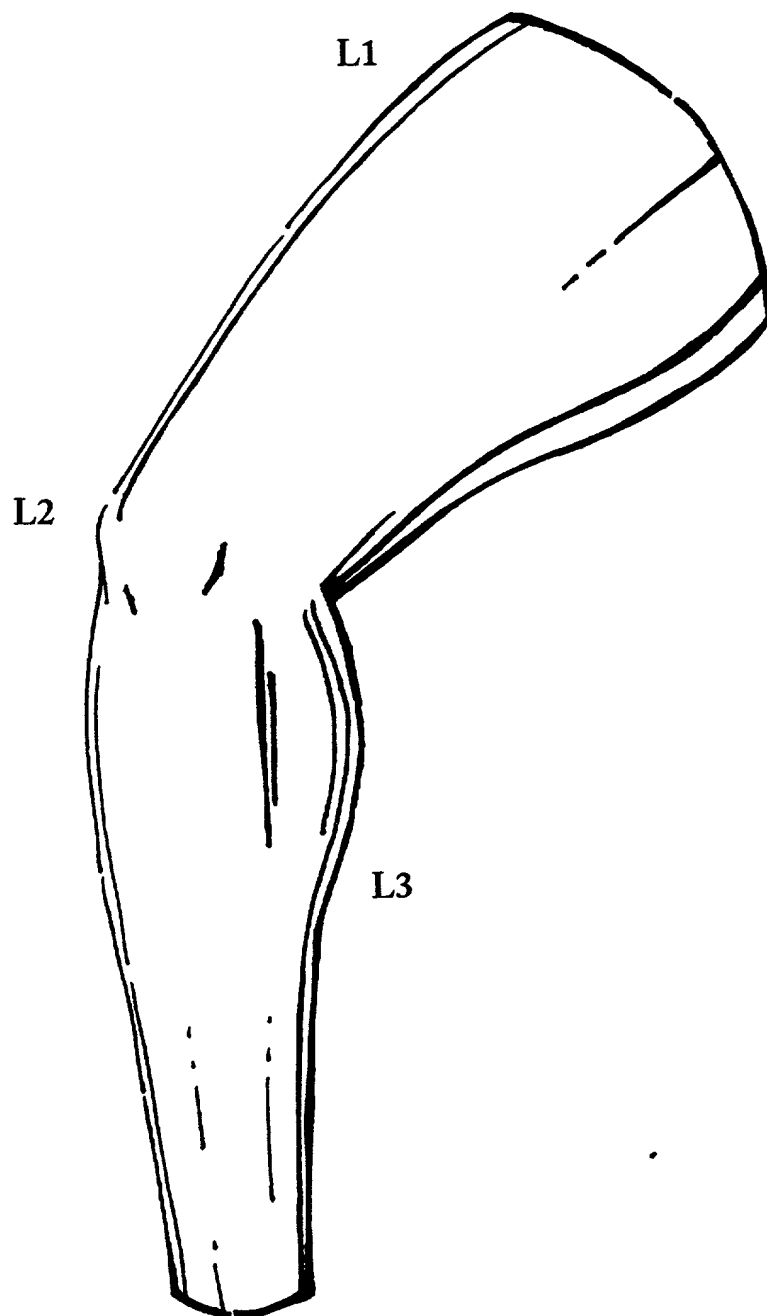


Figure 2



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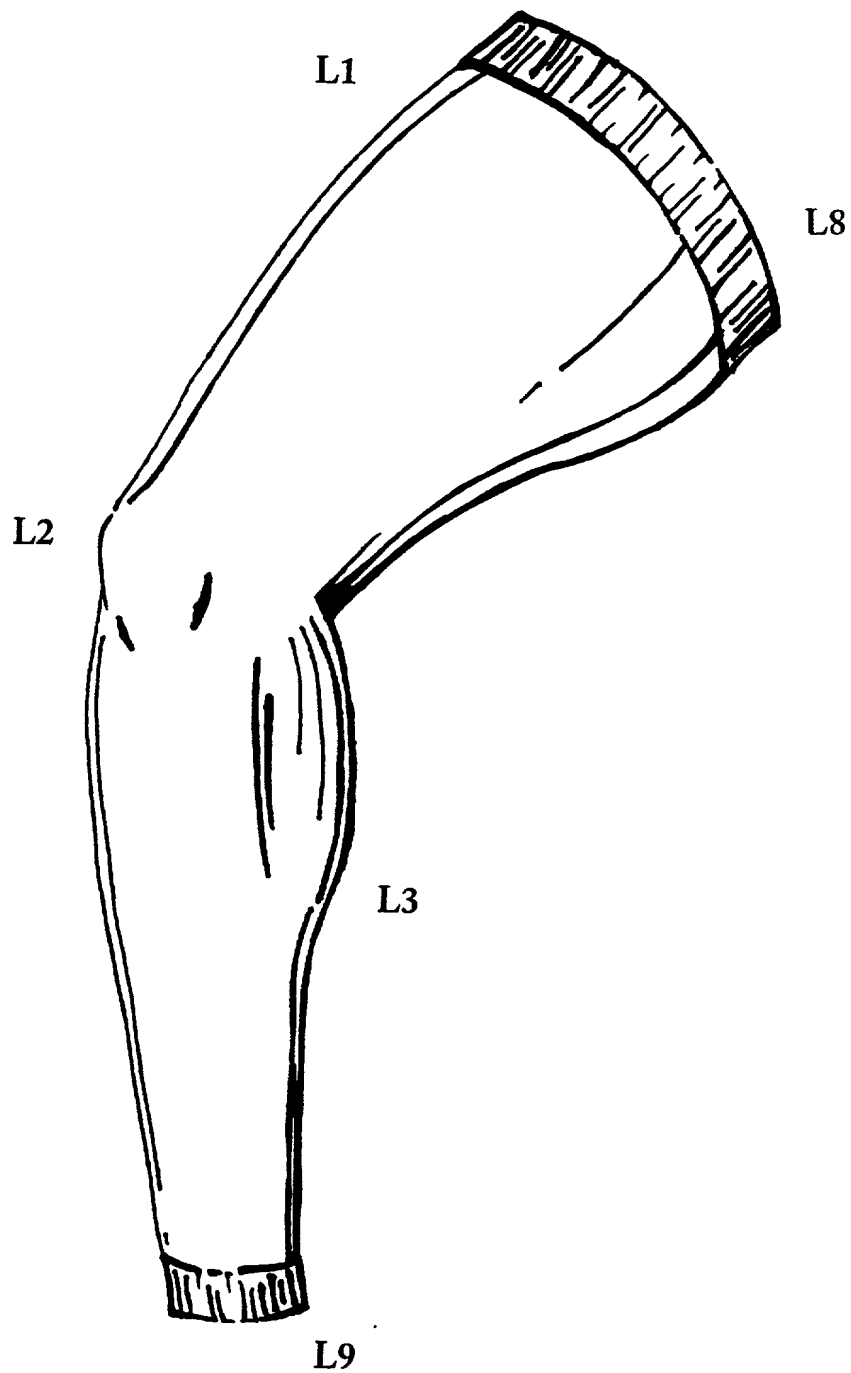
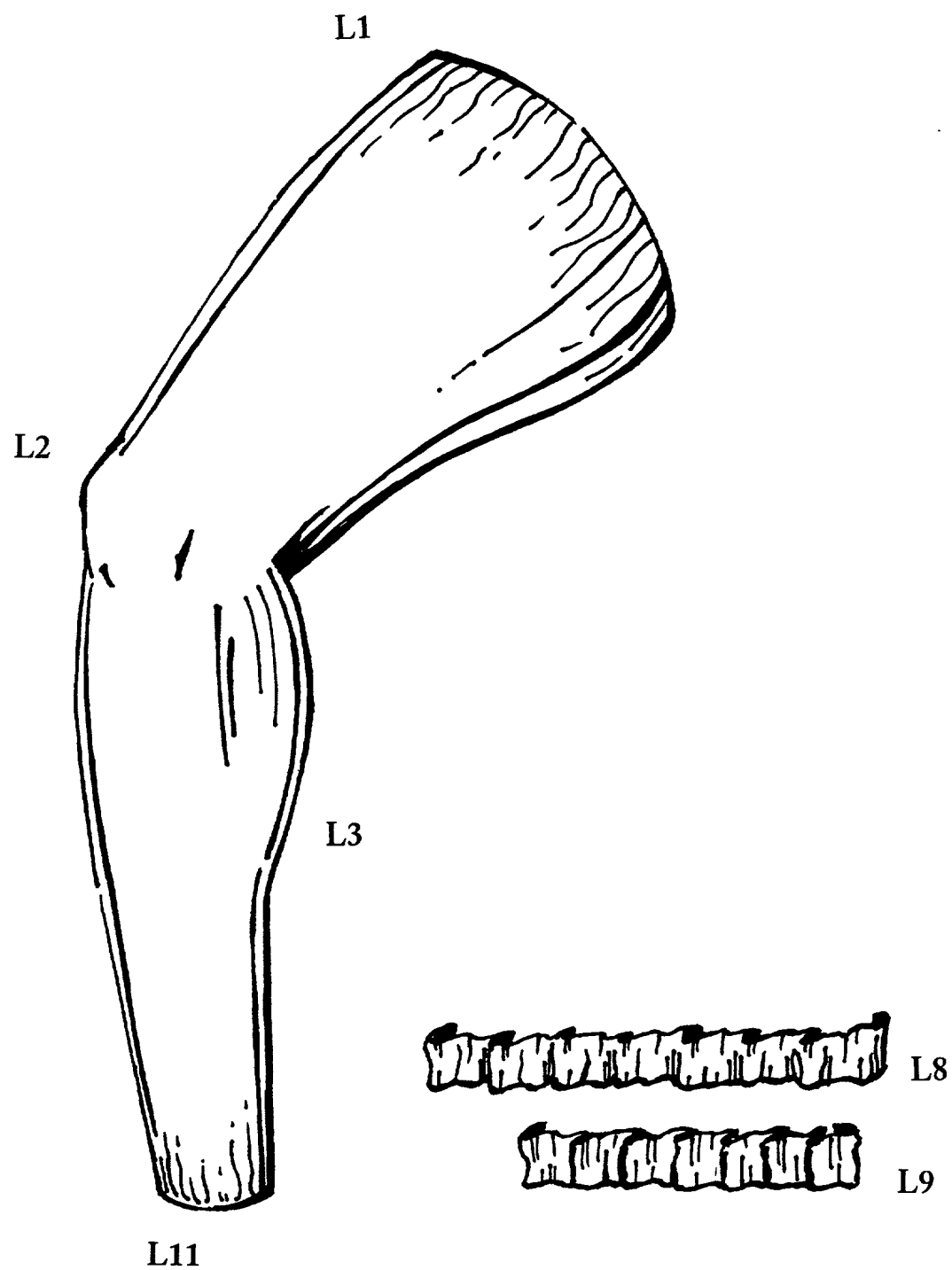


Figure 4

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	



### Figure 5

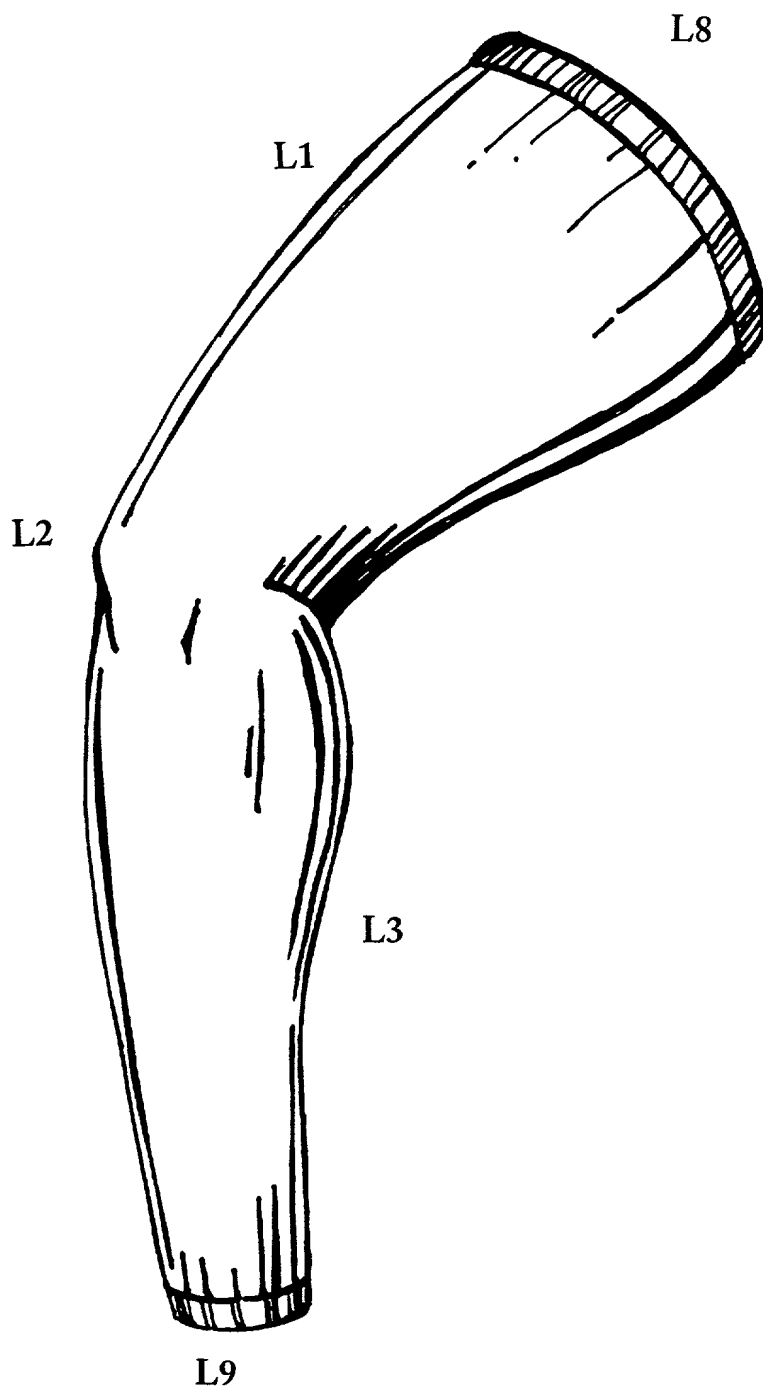


Figure 6

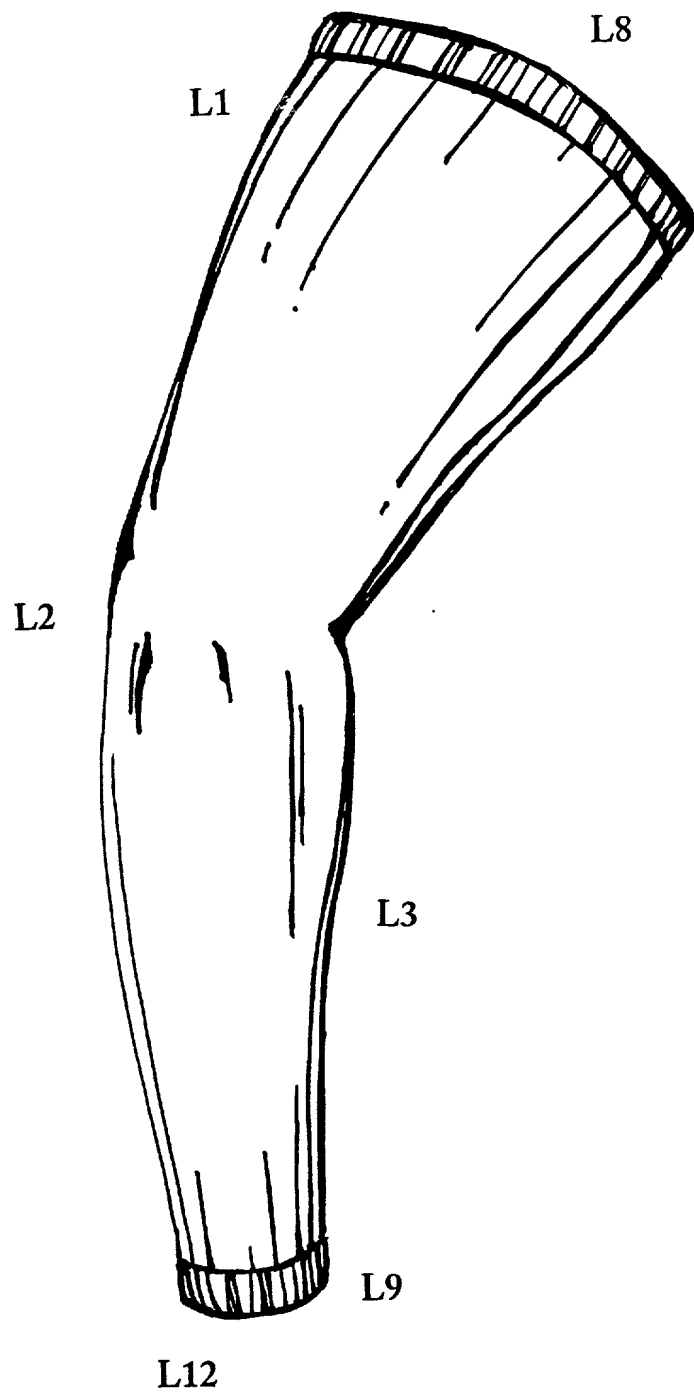


Figure 7

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<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b> <b>(37 CFR 1.63)</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing    OR <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)	Attorney Docket Number	
	First Named Inventor	Lottie M. Watkins
	<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
	Application Number	/
	Filing Date	
	Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name		

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**Support Relief Hosiery**

the specification of which (Title of the Invention)

☐ is attached hereto  
OR  
☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) [ ] as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number [ ] and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) [ ] (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.
60/131,511	4/29/99	

[Page 1 of 2]

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)

☐ Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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 OR  
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Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number

☐ Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to: ☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label  OR ☒ Correspondence address below

Name	Lottie M. Watkins				
Address	110 N. State Street				
Address					
City	Raleigh,	State	NC.	ZIP	27601
Country	US.	Telephone	919 828 4025	Fax	919 838 0985

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor: ☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

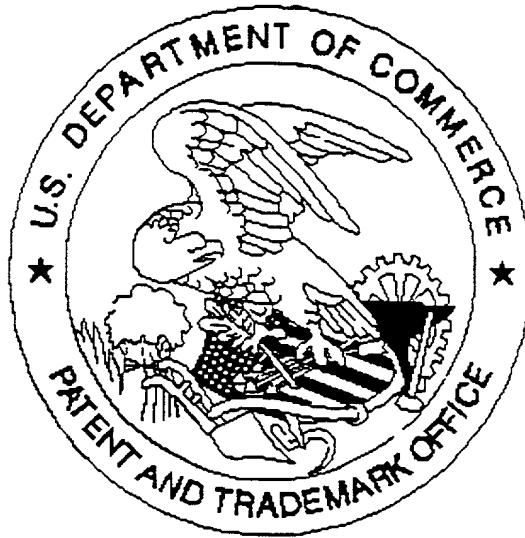
Given Name (first and middle (if any))	Family Name or Surname
Lottie Mae	Watkins

Inventor's Signature	<i>Lottie Mae Watkins</i>			Date	4/21/02
Residence: City	Raleigh	State	NC.	Country	US.
Post Office Address	110 N. State Street				
Post Office Address					
City	Raleigh	State	NC.	ZIP	27601
Country	US.				

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